WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A client/server system, comprising:

a portable client computer, comprising:

    a client database, and

    a communications module; and

a server computer, comprising:

    a data storage, and

    a session module, in communication with the data storage, to non-persistently connect to the communications module and access the client database from time to time.

2.   The system of Claim 1, wherein the ~~access~~ *manipulation* of the client database by the session module is a query.

3.   The system of Claim 1, wherein the ~~access~~ *manipulation* of the client database by the session module is to add data to the client database.

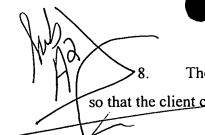4.   The system of Claim 3, wherein the adding of data updates a work order in the client database.

5.   The system of Claim 3, wherein the adding of data provides electronic mail to the client database.

6.   The system of Claim 1, wherein the ~~access~~ *manipulation* of the client database by the session module is to remove data from the client database.

7.   The system of Claim 1, wherein a portion of the client database is retrieved and stored in the data storage.

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8. The system of Claim 1, wherein the data storage comprises a mail server so that the client computer can access electronic mail.

5   9. The system of Claim 1, wherein the data storage resides on a local area network that is further connected to the server.

10. The system of Claim 1, wherein the session module has a persistent connection with the data storage.

10   11. In a computer network, including a server, a data storage, and a plurality of mobile clients, each mobile client having a database, a method of synchronizing each of the client databases and the data storage during a non-persistent connection, the method comprising:

15   (a) connecting one of the mobile clients to a server having a session module;

         (b) manipulating the client database with the session module;

         (c) updating the data storage responsive to the manipulation by the session module;

20   (d) disconnecting the client from the server; and

         (e) repeating (a)-(d) a plurality of times, each time with a different one of the mobile clients.

12. The method of Claim 11, additionally comprising updating the client

25   database with data obtained from the data storage.

13. The method of Claim 11, wherein the manipulating includes querying the client database for specific data stored in the client database.

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14. The method of Claim 11, wherein the manipulating includes removing selected data from the client database.

15. The method of Claim 11, wherein the data storage comprises a mail server so that the client computer can access electronic mail.

16. The method of Claim 11, wherein the data storage comprises a database.

17. The method of Claim 11, wherein the server is persistently connected to

10   the data storage.

18. The system of Claim 11, wherein the data storage resides on a local area network.

15   19. The system of Claim 11, wherein the data storage resides on a wide area network.

20. The system of Claim 19, wherein the wide area network is the Internet.

20   21. The system of Claim 11, wherein the data storage includes data that is shareably accessed by the plurality of mobile clients.

22. A client/server system, comprising:

a plurality of portable client computers, each client computer comprising:

a client database, and

25   a communications module;

a data storage; and

a server computer persistently connected with the data storage, the server computer comprising a session module to non-persistently connect to at least

one of the communications modules of an associated one of the portable client computers and access the associated client database from time to time, wherein the plurality of portable client computers shareably access at least a portion of the data stored on the data storage.

23. The system of Claim 22, wherein a portion of the associated client database associated with a one of the plurality of portable client computers is retrieved and stored in the data storage.

24. The system of Claim 22, wherein the data storage comprises a mail server so that at least one of the portable client computers can access electronic mail.

25. The system of Claim 22, wherein the data storage resides on a local area network that is further connected to the server computer.

26. The system of Claim 22, wherein the access of the associated client database by the session module comprises a query.

27. The system of Claim 22, wherein the access of the associated client database by the session module includes adding data to the associated client database.

28. The system of Claim 27, wherein the adding of data updates a work order in the associated client database.

29. A client/server system, comprising:

a plurality of portable client computers;

a plurality of data storages;

a server-computer persistently connected to the plurality of data storages; and

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a plurality of session modules executing on the server computer, each session module in data communication with one or more of the plurality of data storages that may be different than the one or more of the plurality of data storages in communication with the other session modules.

30. The system defined in Claim 29, wherein each one of the session modules executes a set of tasks which is different from the set of tasks of the other session modules.